

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office
FLOOR DEBATE

January 23, 2003 LB 137

trailer on an Interstate that has asphalt on the lanes along the actual pavement. They go through the asphalt. It's just simply not an option to disconnect these, decouple them from the tractor. So we got a lesson in the committee on towing and weights and bridges and so on. And I...our judgment was that we were going to open this thing up. We're not going to get an extended load that's going to exceed, probably, 125 feet too much because, obviously, a long load is going to be permitted anyway, has to have a permit from Carrier Enforcement. So we felt we'd open it up, give them some flexibility, so we didn't have to come back and revisit this another year or two, and go from there. It came out of committee 8 to 0. And as I said, neither senator, whose bills were similar, was through the whole hearing, that I recall. So we discussed it. That was our best judgment. And I'd ask for your support of this bill. Thank you.

SPEAKER BROMM: Thank you, Senator Baker. Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Baker, it's been a long time since I've thought about this particular area, but I wanted to ask you two or three questions, so I can better make a judgment between what Senator Pederson might be offering and what your committee is offering. And forgive me if I haven't heard everything in the debate here, but I want to go back. Your bill, as I understand it, would allow for any combination of disabled vehicles attached to a tow truck. Is that right.

SENATOR BAKER: Yeah.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Okay.

SENATOR BAKER: Yes, that's correct.

SENATOR BEUTLER: All right. In Nebraska, we allow for double trailers, right?

SENATOR BAKER: Yes, we do.

SENATOR BEUTLER: So you could hook up the cab and the double trailer and pull it to the nearest place of safety.